Setting up industries in rural areas

910. SHRI T. T. V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that MNCs are not coming forth to set up industries in rural areas;

(b) the steps taken by Government to transfer the benefit of globalization to the rural areas through persuasion of MNCs and industrialists by providing incentives; and

(c) the steps taken for rural industrialization to reduce unemployment and poverty in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Legislation for regulating the textile sector

911. SHRIC. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that Government are considering a legislation for regulating the textile sector;

(b) to what extent the new legislation will protect the domestic textile industry; and

(c) to what extent will the new legislation protect the consumer interests?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The Government is in the process of formulating a legislation, which would, *inter-alia,* protect the interests of domestic textile industry and the consumers by prescribing markings on domestically produced and imported textiles.

Export of cotton

912. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total cotton exports during the last five years, year-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government are thinking of getting 46 lakh bales of cotton as surplus this year *i.e.* 2004-05;